



## Strengthening the link between climate change adaptation and national development plans: Lessons from the case of population in National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs)

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### Abstract:

As climate change adaptation planning moves beyond short term National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPA) to longer-term approaches, it is instructive to review the NAPA process and examine how well it was linked to national development planning. This paper reviews 41 NAPAs submitted by Least Developed Countries (LDCs) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), to assess the NAPA process in terms of NAPAs integration with countries' national development strategies. The review outlines the actors involved in developing NAPAs and identifies the range of interventions included in countries' priority adaptation actions. The paper uses the example of population as an issue related to both climate change and national development to assess how it is addressed as part of LDCs' adaptation and national development agendas. The analysis shows that although countries recognize population pressure as an issue related to the ability to cope with climate change and as a factor hindering progress in meeting development goals, it is not well incorporated into either adaptation planning or in national development strategies. Among the 41 NAPAs, 37 link high and rapid population growth to climate change. Moreover, six NAPAs clearly state that slowing population growth or investments in reproductive health/family planning (RH/FP) should be considered among the country's priority adaptation actions. Furthermore, two NAPAs actually propose a project with components of RH/FP among their priority adaptation interventions, although none of them has yet been funded. The paper points to structural issues that hamper better alignment between climate change adaptation and national development planning and offers recommendations for longer-term adaptation strategies that better meet the development needs of countries.

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### Resource Description

#### Exposure : ☒

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Ecosystem Changes, Extreme Weather Event, Food/Water Security, Food/Water Security, Human Conflict/Displacement, Unspecified Exposure

**Extreme Weather Event:** Drought, Flooding, Landslides

**Food/Water Security:** Agricultural Productivity, Fisheries, Food Access/Distribution, Livestock Productivity, Nutritional Quality

# Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

## **Geographic Feature:**

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Mountain, Ocean/Coastal, Urban

## **Geographic Location:**

resource focuses on specific location

Global or Unspecified

## **Health Co-Benefit/Co-Harm (Adaption/Mitigation):**

specification of beneficial or harmful impacts to health resulting from efforts to reduce or cope with greenhouse gases

A focus of content

## **Health Co-Benefit/Co-Harm (Family Planning/Population Reduction):**

specification of beneficial or harmful impacts to health resulting from efforts to promote family planning or reduce population growth as a climate change adaptation or mitigation measure

A focus of content

## **Health Impact:**

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Infectious Disease, Respiratory Effect

**Infectious Disease:** Foodborne/Waterborne Disease

**Foodborne/Waterborne Disease:** Cholera, General Foodborne/Waterborne Disease, Other Diarrheal Disease

## **Mitigation/Adaptation:**

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

**Population of Concern:** A focus of content

## **Population of Concern:**

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Low Socioeconomic Status

## **Resource Type:**

format or standard characteristic of resource

Policy/Opinion, Research Article

## **Timescale:**

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified